

## **Gillian Clarke**

A member of the congregation at St Mary the Virgin during the 27 years we have lived in West Moors, I am currently PCC Lay Chairman, I edit the parish magazine and lead a Homegroup. I have just stepped down after being Church Warden for six years, having previously served as Church Warden in the 1990s.

I am Lay Chairman of Wimborne Deanery. I am a member of Diocesan Synod and for the last six years have served on the Learning for Discipleship and Ministry Council and Bishop's Council. I am currently a lay representative on the Steering Group for the *Renewing Hope through Rural Ministry and Mission* programme, now to be implemented after a successful bid for substantial funding.

Professionally, I have been Head of English in three different schools – comprehensives in Northamptonshire and Hertfordshire, then for 14 years at Parkstone Grammar School in Poole where I was also Senior Teacher with responsibilities for Assessment. As Beacon School Co-ordinator, I worked across all curriculum areas, phases and institutions to share and develop good practice, to enhance and enrich curriculum experience and to promote inclusion and community collaboration.

Between 2004 and 2013, I worked part-time as an Educational Consultant. I was a Visiting Tutor assessing and supporting students in placement schools on the PGCE English course at Exeter University. I undertook contracts for QCA and Ofqual, reviewing Standards across Examination Boards, reviewing Specifications and working with schools in Devon and West Sussex on Assessing Pupil Progress.

I am pleased to have been elected as Chair of the House of Laity of Salisbury Diocese having been encouraged to stand for this important role. I hope to continue to make a strong contribution using my professional knowledge and experience, providing an awareness and understanding from a parish and deanery perspective. I aim to be a strong voice for the laity working in partnership with clergy and others in our local communities as we strive to move forward in our mission: *Renewing Hope; Pray Serve and Grow*.

***July 2017***